14th November 1961]

Sri K. VINAYAKAM : Only after perusing the paper laid on the table of the House, I am putting this question. It is mentioned there that the behaviour should be decent. According to the standards of foreigners, decency does not mean prevention of smoking. But I have heard complaints from tourists that our taxi drivers who drive the tourist taxis keep on smoking which is nauseating to them. Would that be stopped?

The Hon. Sri V. RAMAIAH : It has not been brought to my notice but if there is any specific complaint and if the hon. Member writes to me about it, I will look into it.

Sri A. A. RASHEED : May I know what steps the Government have taken for enforcing the wearing by drivers of uniform, viz., white trousers, white tunic, peak cap (white) and black shoes?

The Hon. Sri V. RAMAIAH : These are not for all the drivers. These conditions apply only to the Madras City taxis numbering 19 which we have permitted, and I am sure all these people who own these taxis are adhering to these conditions.

Sri V. K. RAMASWAMY MUDALIYAR : Is the Hon. Minister aware that even in foreign countries taxi drivers do smoke when they take passengers?

The Hon. Sri V. RAMAIAH : What the hon. Member, Sri Ramaswamy Mudaliyar has stated may be true but I find that the hon. Member, Sri Vinayakam, has some objection to the drivers smoking. There is some difficulty to enforce it strictly and say that none should smoke, particularly when passengers offer a cigarette to the driver.

Land Mortgage Banks for Ramanathapuram district

* 2081 *Q.*—Sri K. RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Electricity be pleased to state whether the proposals for starting Land Mortgage Banks for Paramakudi and Mudukulathur taluks in Ramanathapuram district have been finalised?

The Hon. Sri V. RAMAIAH : Proposals for the organisation of a Land Mortgage Bank to serve the Paramakudi and the Mudukulathur taluks are under examination.

Sri K. RAMACHANDRAN : இது அதிக காலமாக இருந்து கொண்டிருக்கிறது. செட்டில்மெண்ட் இண்ட்ரொட்யூஸ் செய்ய வேண்டும், அப்போதுதான் வைக்கப்படும் என்று முன்னால் சொன்னார்கள். இப்போது செட்டில்மெண்ட் முடிந்துவிட்டது. விவசாயிகளுக்கு சௌகரியமாக இருக்கும் ஸ்கீமாக இருப்பதால் இது எப்போது ஆரம்பிக்கப்படும், என்ன ஸ்திதியில் இருக்கிறது? 9-00 a.m.

The Hon. Sri V. RAMAIAH : Activities of the Land Mortgage Bank would be intensified further so that during the final year of the Third Plan period, most of the requirements would be met. So, under that approach I am sure, consideration will be quickened.